

## COUNTY COURT DOINGS.

The May term of county court opened Monday morning with all judges present. The usual crowd of paupers and others were on hand to draw their quarterly allowances. The following business was transacted Monday.

Allowances:—Wm. Long, \$14; Wm. Boncom, \$25; Hosen Hall, \$10; Church Raspberry, \$25; Clara Hunter, \$15; Jesse Wilbur, \$6; Mrs. G. W. Shields, \$15; B. F. Owens, \$16; Eliza Maubry, \$15; Simpson, \$10; Church Sanders, \$15; Mrs. D. M. Coleman, \$20; Mrs. Amanda Hitt, \$15; W. L. Carroll, \$71; Wm. Spalding, \$15; Thos. A. Matthews, \$10; Chas. Will: Benton Mill, \$4.25.

Dramshop license granted to Chas. Hamm and E. C. Smith, and Albert Losse, Edna.

Change of road petitioned by V. L. Harris and Johnstone Land Co., Morley, Bugg School house and Sikeston road, surveyor ordered to view.

Change of road petitioned by J. E. Marshall, et al., Morley and Little River road, surveyor ordered to view.

Change of road petitioned by Chas. McMullin and Jas. Marshall, et al., near Crowder, surveyor ordered to view.

County Poor farm let to John Spalding for three years at \$3.06 1/2 per acre.

The county money was let to the Benton Bank at 4 1/2% on daily balances. This is more than double the amount ever paid—except when the Farmers Bank of Commerce "bumped in" many years ago. It happened this way. C. D. Matthews, of Sikeston, is a Republican. The "powers" are Democrats—and bankers. To get the people's money at 2% and loan it back to the people at 8% and over, is quite a snap. Of course I am not on the inside, but it seems that a combination had been formed among local Democratic bankers not to bid over 2% and be socialist—"divide up." It is evident that Mr. Matthews was not in on the "divide" and sent in a bid offering 3 1/2% for the money.

When it is considered that county seat bankers have had a law passed that the county depository must either be located at the county seat, or else maintain a branch there, this indicates what the money is worth. For, in addition to paying 3 1/2%, Mr. Matthews would have had to maintain a branch of his bank here. And he expected to make a profit.

Tuesday but few people were here. A few road and other matters were looked into and the following allowances made:

Martin Tuckwell, \$30; J. L. Buchanan, \$9; John McKinn, \$36; L. C. Martin, \$15; Martin Lisher, \$15; E. J. Malone, \$10; Benton Record, \$45.25; C. N. Mozley, \$120; Ward Smith, \$1.50; Missouri Training School, \$14.78; Sam Worley, \$2; James Stone, \$2; P. H. Boyce Mercantile Co., \$198.92; G. S. Cannon, \$72.22; J. P. Ranney, \$20; Jeff Slinkard, \$35.50; Chas. Slinkard, \$38.50; Andrew Uelsman, \$69.70; Hy. Grojan, \$29.

Wednesday the town filled up with farmers from east Sandyswoods who came to protest against proposed improvement of North Cut Cypress ditch, the Johnstone Land Co., petitioners, and to be relieved from taxation in Levee district 2. The North Cut Cypress ditch matter was dismissed and the following land owners were stricken from the levee district:

Joe Hutchason, R. D. Puckett, J. H. Moore, Jesse Chappel, J. J. Gage, R. W. Cason, J. W. Moore, A. Wilhelm, N. G. Hopper, T. J. Huey, J. L. Huey, W. V. Arnold, W. H. Hampton, Julius Misset, A. A. Humphrey, J. T. Schneider, J. C. Burton, Elizabeth and Ferd. Ostner, J. S. Watts, B. F. Marshall, Thos. B. Worrell.

Thursday a large crowd of ladies and gentlemen from Oran, Sikeston and Commerce came to oppose the saloon petitions from these points. In Sikeston only a block petition is required and the first round ended in favor of Walter Kendall, who was granted license. His petition contain five names. S. M. Gossett was also granted license for Sikeston.

The petition of Ed. Johnson, of Commerce, was knocked out on the count.

Court adjourned Thursday evening until 9 o'clock Friday morning, when Oran petitions will be taken up. Rockview follows.

## AROUND BENTON.

A. C. Miller, of Commerce, was here Monday and told the Kicker that Mrs. Miller had a setting hen that quit her nest and took to a nest of young kittens. There was trouble between the mother cat and the hen and family assistance was necessary to recover possession of the kittens for the mother cat.

Mike Bollinger, president of the Oran farmers union, was here Monday. He says that nearly all the farmers about Oran are members of the union, and that a grain warehouse will be built this season.

The directors for Benton school selected Prof. Richards, Mrs. Earl Miller and Miss Nellie Lober as teachers for the ensuing year.

Mrs. S. J. Wade returned from Jefferson City Tuesday. She says the legislature will likely adjourn this week.

D. H. Harper and Mr. Castleman came over from Oran Tuesday.

## FROM ORAN.

In passing through the town of Vanduser last week I was surprised to see the many valuable improvements that have been made during the past year. In the western part of town, especially, many modern, substantial, up-to-date dwellings have recently been erected. The architectural designs of these structures are good and are pleasing to the sight. Not only the dwellings but the out-buildings, fencing and everything connected therewith are well arranged and being supplied with a liberal coat of paint, present a striking contrast to the old style of box shanties that at first adorned many of the Southern Missouri towns. The school building, a substantial brick structure and now being used for the first time adds much to the appearance of that locality and I might say the construction of this building had much to do with the other improvements in that part of the town. This building although not yet complete will have been made so before the commencement of the fall term of school. The school board, Messrs. Woodward, Utzage and Grant, are practical men and look well to the interest of the school and under their management the school will be a success. But the improvements are not wholly confined to the town. The whole surrounding country is keeping pace with it. Since the drainage ditches were put through improvements are noticeable everywhere. Hundreds of acres that were but a few years ago a dense forest are now being brought into cultivation, and adorned with farm houses, barns, etc.—with everything in fact having a tendency to make life worth living. As the country improves, the lands cleared and brought into cultivation; the products of the farm will be marketed in the town, which will increase the trade and have a tendency to enhance real-estate values. Oran and Morley had better look well to their laurels ere they wake up some morning to find their trade slipping away and themselves distanced by their neighbor to the south.

The army worm is still with us. On the C. & A. J. Matthews' farm south of town, about two hundred acres of wheat has been utterly destroyed. To prevent their further progress the wheat has been sprayed with paris green for a space of about twelve feet. What effect this will have remains to be seen. William B. Grice reports that his meadow is totally destroyed. After worms had passed over it the field had the appearance of having been burned over. Nick Dannenmuller says that while there are a few worms on the hill farms no damage has been done.

In passing over the country I observed that many improvements were being made. Frank Heisserer will build an addition to his dwelling. Louis Hailer has a new one-story and a half dwelling nearly completed, while other farmers are getting building material on the ground for barns and other out buildings. Everything denotes that notwithstanding the adverse circumstances under which they have had to labor they have overcome every obstacle and are marching onward.

Uncle August Donoghe, a retired farmer, says that the outlook for the farmers this year is not promising. The unusual cold, wet weather has caused the early planted corn to rot in the ground. The fruit will be almost an entire failure. The army worms having totally destroyed the meadows are now damaging the wheat. All this makes farming rather discouraging.

The delegates representing the county farmers' union met in delegated convention here Tuesday and will remain over tomorrow. While I am not advised as to the object of this meeting I understand that it is for the purpose of deciding as to the advisability of building warehouses—purchasing farm machinery, etc.

A. J. McFadden and J. C. Sanders are turning their attention to the raising of registered Poland China hogs. They have some fine looking porkers in their herds and by careful breeding they expect to show some of the finest strain to be found in the county.

The attendance at the Parochial School is larger than ever before. Pupils are in attendance from Sikeston and Chaffee and from several of the adjoining districts. The teachers are doing good work.

Mr. Mackey lost on Thursday morning a valuable Jersey cow, for which he had refused \$100. The cow was on a clover pasture, and the supposition is that the clover caused her death.

Work on the preist-house, at the Guardian Angel church, under the supervision of Joseph O. Hess, is progressing nicely. The framework is all up and will soon be under cover.

The Rebekah Degree of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows will give a strawberry and ice cream festival at the Opera House Thursday evening at 8 p. m.

Mr. John Anderson, wife and daughter, Steve Castleman, wife and daughter and Mrs. Dick Harris of Charleston are visiting D. H. Harper.

James High, the painter from Commerce, has been here for several days painting the dwellings of D. H. Harper and Mrs. M. C. Friend.

The enumeration of children of school age in this district shows an

## increase of thirty over last year.

Mrs. George W. Finley died at 5 o'clock Wednesday evening after a lingering illness. The funeral was conducted from the Baptist church Thursday afternoon. Interment at the Friend Cemetery.

The proposition to enlarge the public school building was voted on Wednesday and carried by 137 to 35. Four rooms will be added.

The Baptist congregation are having some grand old side walks put down in front of the church.

George A. Campbell and family, of Commerce, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Moore.

County Superintendent, B. Hugh Smith was in town Saturday on official business.

The year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Dunn died Thursday.

## FROM ROCKVIEW.

Louis Berger, of Kelso, passed through here Saturday with thirty bales of good clover hay for Chaffee. Those people need considerable "roughness" down there.

Mrs. W. D. Jones went to Arkansas last week to visit her daughter, Mrs. Edith Jackson and Mrs. Violet Ware.

John Woolley says the devil is in the hog—especially the chicken eating variety.

A child of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Totty was operated on Saturday and is reported better.

Mrs. Wm. McClanahan was called to the bedside of her father at Vanduser.

Frank Shackles says he expects a sisters-in-law any old time.

Wm. G. Belk is counter-hopping for the Essner Mercantile Co.

Frank Ledure was at Cape last week.

## FROM KELSO.

While Sam, Arthur and Adolph Menz and Albert, Tony and Frank Blattel were out on a fox chase Monday and were in the act of excavating four young foxes, the hounds started across Henry Meiderhoff's field. It seems that the dogs had been bothering sheep and Mr. Meiderhoff shot one of the hounds, for which he afterwards paid \$10 to Sam Menz.

Tuesday Wm. Essner, of Rockview, departed for Dallas, Texas. He left behind in Kelso a very dear lady friend, and in her note book your correspondent discovered these lines:

"When Willie left for Texas I thought my heart would break. How sad it was—the parting Oh, how my heart does ache.

Sol and Chas. Diebold, and the Misses Bertha Welter, Bertha, Colathia and Alvina Compas, went down to New Hamburg church Sunday, where they were joined by Miss Clara Essner and others and spent a pleasant afternoon at the home of Uncle Jake Diebold.

John Sailer traded a set of double harness to J. H. Boardman for twenty acres of land in the Ozark Mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Essner, Andy Essner and daughters, Martha and Emma, all of Benton attended church here Sunday.

Mrs. W. Fornholt and daughter, Mrs. Sibley, of Edna, visited her daughter, Mrs. Frank Compas, of this place, Saturday.

John Diebold and son, Charles, went over to their swamp farm west of Oran Saturday.

Frank Schwepker and family moved to St. Louis Saturday.

Miss Rosa Hering is down from St. Louis on a visit.

There will be a ball at Ansell on Pentecost Monday.

August Schlitt, of Bell City, was a visitor here Sunday.

G. W. Potter returned from his Ozark farm Saturday.

Henry Mirzaux and Minnie Bubs were announced Sunday to be married.

## FROM NEW HAMBURG.

Leo and Wendeline Bucher got too much tangledfoot, were arrested and locked in the calaboose. In some way they secured a hatchet and cut their way out during the night. The next morning the sheriff went after them and, in default of cash, were lodged in Benton jail. Their father secured their release the following day. Their "fun" cost them about \$60.

Chas. Diebold and Miss Bertha Welter, Mr. and Mrs. Alvins Fellen, and Jess Logel, of Kelso, and Miss May Amrhein, of Oran, were visitors here Sunday.

Quite a number from Benton attended church here; they having no priest at that place.

A dance given in honor of Mrs. Nick Dannenmuller's birthday was largely attended.

Geo. Dumey and little son, Leon, were at the Cape Saturday.

Leo Westrich was a visitor at A. H. Schoen's last Saturday night.

## FROM PLEASANT VALLEY.

James Sherer, Percy Dodson and Clyde Robertson attended the birthday dinner of James Hinkle at Minner's Saturday.

Grant Wallace and family, of White Oak, and the Misses Sadie and Lessie James spent Sunday with Mr. Ab. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Grigsby, of Minner's spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Dodson.

## FROM BLODGETT.

The ice-cream and strawberry supper given Saturday night at the school building under the auspices of the Missionary Society was well attended.

Mrs. J. H. Beardsly is giving a house party this week. The guests are the Misses Anderson, Pell and Hutton, of Commerce.

Mrs. J. M. England is in St. Louis attending the annual convention of the Home Missionary Society.

Dallas Abshier, of Diehlstadt, and Miss Alma Daniels, of Benton, were married by Rev. J. M. England at the parsonage Tuesday afternoon.

Messrs. T. J. Bonfield, W. E. Bradley and G. M. Tucker are delegates to the Farmers' Union at Oran this week.

A chat walk is being laid in town.

## MOORE'S CHAPEL.

Mrs. Robt. N. Moore and relatives desire to express thanks to the neighbors for the many kindnesses shown during the late illness and death of her husband.

Judge Hutcheson, Charles Halstead and J. E. Lemley were out fishing Sunday.

Clarence Pool, Frank and Ben Wilhelm visited Charley Bonfield in Mississippi county Sunday.

Lemmon's union has 40 members—and growing.

## FROM NORTH CUT.

Wm. Dees, of Greenville, is visiting T. J. Green.

Miss Lucille Misset visited Miss Nellie Hall Friday.

A Mr. Irby, of Illinois, is visiting John Suttin, of Minner's, was here Friday.

Grandma Balcum is still very sick.

Charles Murchason, of Parina, is here visiting home folks.

Corn looks bad and is slow coming up.

## FROM HICKORY GROVE.

Lim Strayhorn and wife visited relatives at Vanduser Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Knuckles went to Diehlstadt, and Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Strayhorn spent the day with the family of John Beckman.

Luna the 13-year-old son of James Morrow, disappeared Saturday evening. By telegraph his father located him at Cairo and he is now home again.

Many of the neighbors who went visiting Sunday were caught by the rain and had to remain over night.

## FROM DIEHLSTADT.

Services were held by Rev. England at the M. E. Church Sunday. Mrs. Etta Welch visited Mrs. Fred Miller Sunday, and Miss Eunice Hindman spent the day with Miss Mae Cox.

J. E. Warner, of Benton, was out here Friday and surveyed a county road.

Miss Maud Martindale and Buck Babb were quietly married Friday.

The way it looks here there is not much prospect for a crop. Only one half of corn came up, watermelons haven't come up and army worms are doing much damage to wheat.

There will be "Children's Day" at the M. E. church first Sunday in June.

Chas. Murchison, of North Cut, was here Saturday.

Miss Ada Cooper was in Charles-town Saturday.

## FROM JONES ISLAND.

Rains have stopped farm works. The army worms are in the wheat.

James Evans leaves for Arkansas Friday. Rumor has it that he will return with a dough-beater.

Tom Lynn went to Buckeye Sunday and W. Fralick was at Sikeston Monday.

Wm. Evans attended the farmers union at Oran Tuesday.

George Bonner was out driving with his "bestest" Sunday and got caught in the rain. George got his feet wet—something unusual.

Aunt Emma Randall is sick.

## FROM MOUNT ZION.

R. K. Griggs and family visited Mrs. Allie Evans at Morley Sunday and Charley Rodenberry was at Vanduser.

Miss Stella Portwood, who has been visiting her sister at Thebes, returned home Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Tabor attended Baptist church at Morley Saturday, and Miss Pearl Black visited relatives there Sunday.

J. W. Fisher and daughter, Miss Flora, heard Rev. Wilbur, of the Misses Mayme and Erhel McBride were visitors at Morley Sunday.

The baby of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Carney is reported very sick.

## FROM LITTLE RIVER.

Tom Chaney and family visited friends here Sunday.

Mesdames Utzage and Lemley went to Morehouse Monday.

Uncle Jim Allen, of Oran, was down after more fish last week. He always "bulls the market."

Jim Primm and family spent Sunday with John Capps, and A. H. Phillips visited Fred Pinnel.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Gibbs.

## FROM COMMERCE.

Ed. Hutson, wife and son returned from St. Louis Tuesday.

Mrs. Harry Coffman and Mrs. J. D. Porterfield, of Cape, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. Y. Coffman this week.

A new steam plow owned by several farmers here was tested in ditch digging Friday and seems a success.

Albert Sullenger and wife, of Benton, were here Saturday. Also Mr. and Mrs. John Warner.

Dr. Blackledge was called to Charles Proffit, near Benton, to see his son, who broke his arm.

E. A. Johnson moved his stock of groceries from Benton and has opened up in the Hutton building.

Mr. Keith sold his house and lot to Wm. Rains and will move to Arkansas.

H. C. DeWint and C. I. Anderson were at Cairo Sunday.

The J. S. will give an excursion from Cape to Cairo on the 30th.

J. L. Moore is visiting his sister, Mrs. Dr. Davis at Cairo.

Ollie Dailey and family have moved back from the city.

Sam Clymer went to St. Louis Tuesday. Must be a show in that town with an elephant.

Miss Bessie Torbert has returned from Kentucky and will make this her home.

A. N. Ireland was up from Essex Tuesday, and Charles Proffit was here from Benton.

## FROM MACEDONIA.

Mrs. A. Allen and son, Cleve, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thompson, of Illinois, are here on a visit.

The Misses Laura and Freda Koch spent Sunday at Ilmo.

F. M. Sanders and daughters, Mary, Sundayed at John Sanders, and Miss Belle Garvey visited Miss Addie Sanders.

George Miller spent Monday night with the family of A. C. Miller, of the Ellis district.

Miss Laura Koch is home to stay a while.

## FROM CROOKED CREEK.

Mrs. Wm. Schatz went to Vanduser Friday to be present at the marriage of her sister-in-law Miss Nellie Schatz.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Williams, of Oran, spent Sunday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Sanders.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Penn, of Commerce, visited the family of A. J. Penn Sunday.

After a weeks visit here Mrs. John Burger returned to her home at the Cape.

Charley Smith visited Mr. and Mrs. Phil Gibbs at Fayetteville, Ill. Sunday.

Mrs. C. Rochell spent Friday with Mrs. Lizzie Williams at Commerce.

Arthur Clymer left for St. Louis Tuesday.

## FROM CROSS PLAINS.

A crowd from Benton came down to fish in the ditch Sunday, but it seems they had better luck in fishing bottles out of a beer case. On Monday Thos. Duvall and William Taylor tried their luck, but complained that the water was so muddy the fish couldn't see their bait.

On the puny list are Grandma Carlisle, Mrs. Davenport, Lou Hinkle and Gracie Hopson.

The party at Cy. Finley's Thursday night was well attended.

Miss Laura Smith, of Morley, is visiting Mrs. Snoden.

Preaching here the 3rd Sunday in May.

## COUNTY GRADUATES.

At the county final examination held over the county on April 5 and 6 for 8th grade pupils, the following passed. Graduation exercises at the court house in Benton on Saturday, May 18. This closes the school work of the year and is the beginning of county graduation. Come and encourage the boys and girls.

PUPILS HOME SCHOOL Commerce.

Lena A. Wahl, C. Y. Blackledge, Zollie L. Glenn, Jesse T. Boyd, Earlie Slinkard, G. Lynne Barry, C. W. Russler, Linn Lacy, Beulah Oneal, Jake B. Smith, Hugh Warren, Colosse Halstead, Mabel Worrell, Norma Timmerstein, Lorena Norrid, Clara Norrid.

These boys and girls deserve especial credit for their study and determination, as it took workers to pass the examination.

Respectfully, HUGH SMITH, County Supt.

Christian Fortitude.

As the vacant air we breathe is full of germs of this world's life, so what seems the empty things of common life are full of potencies for life eternal. Our passing spites and worries may be sordid enough, but the thankfulness and patience which overcome them belong to a world which passeth not away.—Henry M. Swarkin.

Thousands of Them Still Live.

A New York man died of enlargement of the head the other day, the remarkable feature of the case being that he died.

## Rose-Comb White Leghorns.

EXCLUSIVELY Bred for Utility and Beauty.

We are in this business to STAY because it PAYS.

Birds full of Health and Vigor All on Free Range.

We want Your Orders and will try to Please You. Birds, \$1 to \$3. Eggs, \$1 per setting. \$5 per 100.

W. E. Watson & Son, Morley, Mo.



## 6% Money to Loan!

By the Commonwealth Trust Co. of St. Louis, on

### Improved Farm Security.

Call on or Address V. L. Harris or Jos. H. Moore, Benton, Mo. Local Agents.

Ordinance No. . . . In relation to the assessment and collection of revenue within and for the village of Benton, Scott Co., Mo. . . .

Be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Benton as follows:

Sec. 1 That there be and there is hereby levied upon all property within the corporate limits of the village of Benton whether real or personal which is made taxable by law for state purposes a tax of twenty five cents on the one hundred dollars valuation thereof as shown by the certified abstract of the assessment books as corrected by the board of Equalization of Scott County, Missouri and returned to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees by the Clerk of the County Court of Scott County, Missouri, for the year 1907.

Sec. 2. That the taxes herein shall become due and payable from and after the passage of this ordinance and the payment thereof shall be enforced by the collector in the same manner